

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ABIGAIL SELDIN OF TIERRA VERDE, FLORIDA EARNS PRESTIGIOUS RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Abigail Seldin, a constituent from Tierra Verde, Florida I have the privilege to represent, who has earned a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship.

Abigail has studied anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania and plans to graduate in May with both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree. She put her studies to use in the field of anthropology to amass an in-depth knowledge about the little-known Lenape Indian Tribe of Pennsylvania. Because of her dedication, Abigail was also named the first undergraduate curator of an exhibit at the University of Pennsylvania's Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

With 769 applicants this year, the Rhodes Scholarship is a revered prize awarded only to those with the highest level of academic success and Abigail is one of only 32 students nationwide to receive this award. She joins a long history of distinguished Americans who have made the journey overseas to participate in international study at England's prestigious Oxford University.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to congratulate Abigail's parents and sisters as well as all of her past and present teachers for inspiring her to reach her goals and beyond. Following my remarks, I will include for my colleagues a story about Abigail's accomplishments as reported by Rita Farlow of The St. Petersburg Times.

At a time when we are encouraging students to strive for educational excellence, I would urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Rhodes Scholar Abigail Seldin as she is a symbol of what is right about our nation's schools and universities and to wish her luck in her future studies at Oxford University.

[The St. Petersburg Times, November 24, 2008]

PINELLAS WOMAN A RHODES SCHOLAR
(By Rita Farlow)

A University of Pennsylvania student from Tierra Verde is among this year's winners of the prestigious Rhodes Scholarships.

Abigail P. Seldin, a 20-year-old anthropology student, organized an exhibit about the previously unknown history of Lenape Indians that is now on display at the University of Pennsylvania Museum.

Seldin is one of 32 men and women from across the United States to win the scholarships for study at England's Oxford University. Winners were officially announced Sunday, but Seldin received the news after an interview with a selection committee on Saturday.

"I was shocked," Seldin said. "I didn't say anything for about five minutes. I managed 'Thank you' and 'I'm honored' but my mind was blank."

Seldin, who plans to graduate in May with a bachelor's and a master's degree in anthropology, became the first undergraduate to curate an exhibit at the university's Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

History books say the Lenape tribe left Pennsylvania by 1803, Seldin said, but there were some who stayed behind, intermarrying with whites but quietly continuing their indigenous ways through the generations.

Seldin said she admired the survival of cultural traditions despite the difficulty involved in maintaining them in secret.

Seldin said she will postpone plans to co-author a book with Chief Robert Ruth of the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania while she studies social anthropology abroad.

Though her family lives in Tierra Verde, Seldin attended a boarding school at Phillips Academy Andover in Massachusetts. She graduated in 2005.

She is not the only 2008 Rhodes winner with Florida ties.

Florida State University college football star safety Myron Rolle, who had to miss part of Saturday's game against Maryland for his Rhodes interview, also received the award.

Rolle, of New Jersey, is a pre-med student and hopes to become a neurosurgeon.

"It was a very exciting day, and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to study at Oxford," Rolle said after arriving in College Park, Md., to play in the second half of the game.

Well-known Rhodes scholars from the United States include former President Bill Clinton, former basketball star and Sen. Bill Bradley, author and social critic Naomi Wolf and former Gen. Wesley Clark.

The winners were picked from 769 applicants endorsed by 207 colleges and universities nationwide. The students will enter Oxford University in England—the world's oldest English-language university—next October.

Created in 1902, the scholarships are the oldest of the international study awards available to American students and provide for two or three years of study. The scholarships have an estimated value of \$50,000 for each year of study.

Since the program's inception, 3,164 Americans from 309 colleges and universities have won Rhodes Scholarships.

This report includes information from the Associated Press and Times archives. Rita Farlow can be reached at farlow@sptimes.com or (727) 445-4162.

RECOGNIZING HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL USA'S 75 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in recognition of Hostelling International USA's 75 years of service to intercultural understanding and youth travel.

Founded in 1934, Hostelling International USA is a nonprofit organization promoting hostels and related programs in our nation, so

our youth may experience the personal enrichment of foreign and domestic travel. Throughout the world, interest in hostel stays has increased to the point where, now, nearly 1 million travelers stay at hostels every year.

Established in 1943, the Michigan Council of Hostelling International USA endures as a resource providing exciting programs to Michigan's youth. These programs, known as "Opening Doors, Opening Minds", facilitate student's experiences of our nation and the world. The Michigan Council also conducts travel workshops in local libraries to encourage adults and youth alike to expand their knowledge and understanding through travel.

I congratulate Hostelling International USA for their 75 years of service and for their continued commitment to opening doors for our nation's youth.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. K. CYRUS MELIKIAN

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. K. Cyrus Melikian of Haverford, Pennsylvania, who died of heart failure on November 27, 2008.

Mr. Melikian's parents escaped the 1919 Armenian massacre and immigrated to Philadelphia shortly before he was born. After graduating from Northeast High School, he attended the University of Pennsylvania and then served in the military.

Mr. Melikian developed the concept of a coffee vending machine while serving in the Army Air Force at Wright Field in Ohio during World War II. He and an officer, Lloyd K. Rudd, were annoyed that the PX was not serving coffee. After their discharge in 1946, Mr. Melikian and Mr. Rudd successfully devised and created an automatic coffee dispenser to the delight of the many football fans who purchased their coffee for 10 cents a cup outside of Shibe Park in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

As their success grew, Mr. Melikian and Rudd sold their company in 1967. Then with the help of his sons, he established Automatic Brewers & Coffee Devices. At ABCD, Mr. Melikian developed pods for single or double orders of espresso, coffee-pod packaging machines and brewers, and coffee-bean grinders integrated into brewers.

His other inventions included a commercial microwave oven and an ice dispenser for soda cups in vending machines. He was responsible for numerous patents.

In addition to his successes as an inventor, Mr. Melikian was also an award-winning marksman, helping to found the trapshooting program at Aronimink Golf Club.

Mr. Melikian was a member of several gourmet societies and was the founder and chairman of the Philadelphia chapter of the International Bacchus Society. In 1961, he and Mr.

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